

HSCD Weekly Brief
Week Ending January 20, 2012

Link to HSCD salient database search: <http://r3web2.r03.epa.gov/hscd/index.cfm>

EPA Region 3 Performs Residential Water Sampling in Dimock - On January 19, 2012, EPA Region 3 announced that it would begin water sampling of 61 homes in the Dimock, PA area. EPA's decision to conduct sampling is based on EPA's review of data provided by residents, Cabot Oil and Gas, and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. In addition, EPA is taking action to ensure delivery of temporary water supplies to four homes where data reviewed by EPA indicates that residents' well water contains levels of contaminants that pose a health concern. EPA will re-evaluate this decision when it completes sampling of the wells at these four homes. Current information on other wells does not support the need for alternative water at this time. Many national and local news outlets, including the Washington Post, published articles or aired segments regarding this announcement. (J. Schafer 4-5143)

Update on the National Level Exercise Planning Committee Meeting - A representative from the Office of Preparedness and Response will participate by teleconference with HQ staff on January 26, 2012 in a Planning Meeting for the upcoming National Level Exercise (NLE) 2012. This exercise will examine the nation's ability to coordinate and implement prevention, preparedness, response and recovery plans and capabilities pertaining to a significant cyber security event or a series of related cyber security events. There will be four separate events involved in this exercise: a tabletop exercise on March 28; functional exercises on April 25-27 and May 22-24; followed by a continuity exercise on June 19-21. (Mike Zickler, 4- 2792)

Update on the Boulevard Cleaners Site, Hampton, VA - On January 18-19, 2012, EPA will visit the Boulevard Cleaners Site to perform confirmatory air sampling. EPA will collect sub slab air and indoor air confirmatory samples from a residence adjacent to the site. EPA collected soil and shallow groundwater samples during the week of January 9, 2012. These sampling events will help determine the efficacy of the removal of contaminated soils in Fall 2011. (Laura Casillas, 4-3253)

Update on the Fort Detrick Area B NPL Site - On January 11, 2012, the U.S. Army held its quarterly Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting for the dissemination of information regarding environmental activities ongoing at Fort Detrick, Md. The meetings are open to the public and the RAB consists of local community members. Topics discussed included an update on the investigation of groundwater at Area B, the recent vapor detection during well drilling, and an update on the archival search for historical information. Time was allotted for local citizens to ask questions which were addressed by Fort Detrick. The next RAB meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2012. Prior to the RAB meeting, EPA, Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and the Army met with Frederick City officials to discuss specific requirements for implementing the construction of a highway through a section of Area B at Fort Detrick. Issues discussed included worker safety, integrity of landfill caps and maintaining the current hydrological system at Area B. (R. Thomson, 4-3357)

Update on the Letterkenny Army Depot PDO and SE Areas, Chambersburg, PA – In December 2011, the Army completed a review of the historical use of aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) at Letterkenny. This review concluded there are three areas where perfluoroalkyls (PFAs), components of AFFF, may have impacted groundwater. PFAs are toxic chemicals considered by EPA to be emerging contaminants. On January 17, 2012, EPA and the Army agreed that the Army will submit a plan to sample groundwater for PFAs at these three areas. At one area, PDO OU4, the sampling will impact issuance of the Final Record of Decision for the PDO Area NPL Site. The Construction Completion milestone for the NPL Site should not be affected. (Jerry Hoover, 4-2077, B. Beach, 4-3364)

Update on the Jackson Ceramix Site, Jefferson County, PA - EPA had multiple calls with the Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Inc. to attain access to sample soils to complete some of the remedial investigation data gaps near their railroad line at the Jackson Ceramix Site. The railroad agreed to access if EPA sampled during railroad hours and if the railroad could oversee EPA sampling. Access issues have been addressed and fieldwork began on January 18, 2012. Discussions with the Falls Creek Borough and the Land Revitalization team also took place on January 18, 2012 to discuss the specific details the borough needs to provide EPA in regards to evaluating future redevelopment on the Site. (Rashmi Mathur, 4-5234)

Update on the North Penn Area 7, Groundwater (OU3) Site, North Wales, Montgomery County, PA - EPA continues to work to obtain access from Teleflex Inc. and Triumph Controls, LLC, the parties associated with a property located at 205 Church Rd, North Wales, PA. As part of the fund-lead Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS), EPA requires access to the property to perform an in-situ groundwater treatability study using dehalococcoides (bacteria) along with a carbon food source and perform groundwater monitoring on the property. The results of the study will be integral for the complete development of the groundwater cleanup alternatives for the entire 650 acre Site. The results will be presented in the FS. One complicating factor has emerged in that the current property owner is Triumph Controls, while the previous property owner, Teleflex, retains ownership and responsibility to the majority of the existing wells installed on the property during their ownership. The RI has identified the property as having the Site's most chlorinated VOC groundwater. EPA plans to install three additional wells on the property. One of the wells will serve as a food-source/bio-augmentation injection point and access the existing Teleflex T-series wells for monitoring groundwater during the 12 month long study. To date, Triumph Controls is unresponsive to EPA's access request. Teleflex is also hesitant to grant access for the EPA treatability study and instead wishes to present their groundwater data to EPA for consideration. As part of the RI, EPA previously performed three sampling events at the property and never encountered an access issue from either party. Now, EPA may have to consider issuance of an Order for access. (David Turner 4-3216, Gwen Pospisil 4-2678)

Update on the Sharon Steel (Farrell Works) Site, Mercer County, PA - A draft proposed plan is being reviewed for operable unit two which includes an asphalt plant and trucking company on Site. The preferred alternative is an asphalt cap or cap of equivalent material on their property to address the inhalation and dermal risk from metals in the slag. The 100 percent fund-lead remedial design for operable unit one of the Site, which includes the Northern part of the Site, will be completed in March 2012. (Rashmi Mathur, 4-5234)

Update on the North Penn Area 12 Superfund Site, Montgomery County, PA – On January 11, 2012, EPA oversaw Vapor Intrusion (VI) sampling conducted by contractors for the Responsible Parties at the North Penn Area 12 Superfund Site. The VI sampling was conducted at five residences/businesses throughout the week. Participants will receive letters summarizing and analyzing the results of their samples. The VI study is being conducted at the Site in response to issues brought up in the last Five-Year Review. (Rome Arquines, 4-3182)

Update on the Old Bassett Warehouse Site, Bassett, VA - EPA received sampling results from the initial sampling at the Old Bassett Warehouse Site. The results indicated several materials contained asbestos. The entire warehouse structure covers approximately 10 acres. A fire occurred that impacted approximately half of the entire structure which contained asbestos insulation pipe wrap and roofing materials. As a result of the fire, a five acre portion of the building collapsed leaving a pile of rubble that contains these asbestos materials that are now exposed to the weather. The Responsible Party, Resource Exchange Associates, is a nonprofit organization which has indicated that they do not have the resources to conduct a cleanup. EPA collected additional samples and documentation to aid in determining the appropriate cleanup strategy. EPA is preparing an action memo to seek funding to conduct a removal action. OSC's Stephanie Wenning and Myles Bartos will coordinate the next steps with State and Local authorities. (Stephanie Wenning, 4-3186, Myles Bartos, 4-3342)

Update on the JT Lewis/Anzon Lead Smelting Site, Philadelphia, PA - EPA On-Scene Coordinator Jack Kelly, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry representative Ana Pomales, and Community Involvement Coordinator Alexander Mandell met with the Executive Director and Neighborhood Advisory Committee Director of the New Kensington Community Development Corporation on January 19, 2012. At the meeting, we shared our ideas for an educational outreach effort on reducing exposure to lead in soil and dust for families living near the former lead smelter site. Outreach efforts will include fact sheets, quick response codes, and presentations at local community meetings and events. There will be a meeting in February 2012 with directors of other leading community groups to discuss additional strategies for outreach. A meeting with the City of Philadelphia's Department of Public Health also is anticipated. (Jack Kelly, 4-3112, Ana Pomales 4- 5716, Alexander Mandell, 4-5517)

HSCD Calendar of Activities

Jan. 25

LEPC Presentation

Roane County, WV

Contact: Bob Kelly, 4-3268

Jan 26

Quarterly Meeting – MD Cooperative Agreements

10:00 a.m. Conference Call

Contact: Sandy Allen, 4-3150

Feb. 1	LEPC Presentation Cabell/Wayne, WV Contact: Bob Kelly, 4-3268
Feb. 16	LEPC Presentation Wytheville, VA Contact: Bob Kelly, 4-3268
Feb 16	Quarterly Meeting – DE Cooperative Agreements 10:00 a.m. Conference Call Contact: Sandy Allen, 4-3150
May 15 – 17	Regional Response Team Meeting Ocean City, MD Contact: Linda Marzulli, 4-3256
Mar 15	Quarterly Meeting – WV Cooperative Agreements 10:00 a.m. Video Conference Contact: Sandy Allen, 4-3150
Mar. 28	LEPC Presentation Roane County, WV Contact: Bob Kelly, 4-3268
Apr. 4	LEPC Presentation Cabell/Wayne, WV Contact: Bob Kelly, 4-3268

